DEC 0 8 2004 W

Attorney Docket No.: VOS-44 CON

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants :

Hans Weiher et al.

Application No.

10/644,325

Confirmation No.

6657

Filed

August 19, 2003

Group Art Unit

1623

For

USE OF γ -GT INHIBITORS FOR THE TREATMENT

OF DEGENERATIVE DISEASES

New York, New York December 8, 2004

Hon. Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO ELECTION/RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Sir:

This responds to the October 8, 2004 Office Action in the above-identified application. This Response is filed concurrently with a Petition for a one-month extension of time for responding to that action under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), together with the requisite extension fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(a)(1). With this extension of time, a response is due on or before December 8, 2004.

Kindly amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 5 of this paper.